











# WALTON HILLS WORK. PLAY. LIVE.

Dear Neighbors and Friends,

As we near the middle of 2017, I'd like to reflect on what has been accomplished and some of what will be accomplished in the remainder of the year.

Everyone is well aware of the need to provide adequate funding for our safety forces. You will have the opportunity to support our safety forces by voting for Issue 6, the police levy. Issue 6 is a temporary 5 mill property tax increase. The temporary levy will provide adequate operational funding for the police department until new revenue sources are developed. It is important for you to know that 100% of the money raised through this levy will be used exclusively by Walton Hills. We estimate that the increase would generate about \$700,000. Of this, around \$300,000 would be from our residents, around \$180,000 would be from our businesses, and around \$220,000 would come from the public utilities. Remember, this isn't a permanent levy. When revenue from other sources is developed, council can rescind the levy at any time.

Last month we held our Open House for the new Walton Hills Community Center at 14660 Alexander Road. The event was well attended by leaders of our community and neighboring communities. Several people have mentioned that it was remarkable that our Village was able to purchase the property for \$450,000 and refurbish it for under \$100,000. They, the Village Council, and I, believe in the long run, our entire community will benefit from this investment. The facilities will be used by the community and some of the cost for maintenance and operations will be offset through revenue generated from weddings and other private event rentals.

Other properties in the Village are making upgrades. First, the Fuel Mart on Northfield Road. The gas station is in the process of removing its existing building and gas pumps to rebuild a larger building and high tech gas pumps. Fuel Mart will also be installing, at its expense, white fencing in front of the business to improve the beautification of our Village. Second, the old Todd Industries vacant building, also on Northfield Road, is being refurbished to attract a new company to the building.

If you're interested in viewing Walton Hills' financial reports, you can do so by logging onto www.waltonhillsohio.gov. When you logon, scroll over the word "Services" at the top of the page and click on "Finance Department" in the drop down menu. From there, you'll notice a blue "Useful Links & Info" box on the right side of the screen. Click on "Financial Reports." You can also request to see our financial reports at the Village Hall. Per Ohio Revised Code 117.38: It is necessary for your entity (Village of Walton Hills) to publish notice in a publication circulated in your political subdivision or taxing district indicating the full financial report has been completed and is available for public inspection at your entity's office.

Finally, I'd like to invite you to join us on Monday, May 29th at 8:30am on the Village Hall grounds for our annual Memorial Day observance. We will reflect, remember and honor the men and women of our armed forces who sacrificed their lives for our great nation.

God Bless You and God Bless America

Kevin Hurst

Mayor/Safety and Economic Director,

I.G.I.T.



# Rockin' in the USA WE'RE GIVING AWAY ALL YOUR FAVORITE PRIZES IN MAY!

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#### **Your Village Officials**

Top row: Councilpersons Gloria Terlosky, Paul Rich,

Mary Brenner-Miller, Brian Spitznagel

Bottom row: Councilman Don Kolograf, Mayor Kevin Hurst,

Councilman Denny Linville

# Legislation Unanimously Approved at the 4.18.2017 Regular Council Meeting

Council meeting minutes are available in their entirety on the Village website

**Ordinance No. 2017-6** amends Chapter 1292 of the Codified Ordinances, and adding section 1292.14, maintenance of parking areas.

**Ordinance No. 2017-7** amends section 868.03, application; fee; license; registration and section 868.05 of the Codified Ordinances.

**Ordinance No. 2017-8** amends Chapter 1062 of the Codified Ordinances, with respect to the Community Hall, Multi-Purpose Room and Banquet Hall in the Village of Walton Hills.

**Resolution No. 2017-11** authorizes the Village to purchase rock salt from the Ohio Department of Transportation.

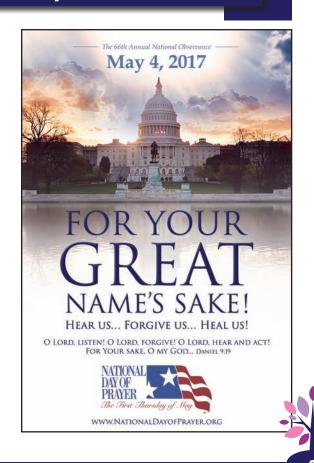
**Resolution No. 2017-12** approves the lot split of PPN 794-05-001, confirming the action of the Village Planning Commission on April 6, 2017.

# **National Day of Prayer**

Join Walton Hills on Thursday, May  $4^{\rm th}$  at 11am at the Walton Hills Church of Christ, 7166 Dunham Road, to observe the  $66^{\rm th}$  Annual National Day of Prayer. Americans will gather around the nation to pray for our country and its leaders. We'll ask God to grant them wisdom to act with integrity.

This year's theme is "For Your Great Name's Sake! Hear Us... Forgive Us...Heal Us!" Taken from Daniel 9:19, which says, "O Lord, Listen! O Lord, Forgive! O Lord, Hear and Act! For Your Sake, O My God." Thousands of Christians will once again heed this call on Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup>!

Scripture tells us that our fervent prayer is effective. That our loving God responds to His children's earnest pleas in mighty ways that avail much and ultimately determine the course of history. Refreshments will follow our observance of National Day of Prayer.



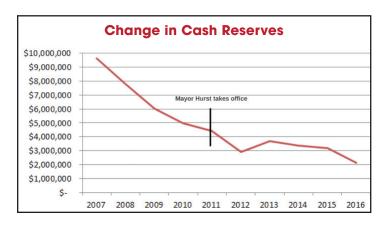
# Issue 6: Police Levy - Tuesday, May 2nd

#### How the ballot will look:

An additional tax for the benefit of the Village of Walton Hills for the purpose of providing and maintaining motor vehicles, communications, other equipment, buildings, and sites used directly in in the operation of a police department, for the payment of salaries of permanent or part-time police, communications, or administrative personnel to operate the same, and for the payment of other related costs at a rate not exceeding 5 mills for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to 50 cents for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for four years, commencing in 2017, first due in calendar year 2018.

#### Why was "Issue 6" placed on the ballot?

 During the last five years the Village lost its two major employers. During their peak periods, they collectively provided more than \$2 million annually in payroll taxes to the Village.



- Walton Hills' average annual operating budget (excluding capital improvement and debt service) over the last six years is approximately \$5 million. More than half of the operating budget, \$2.5 million, is devoted for safety operations.
- During the last six years, police has averaged \$300,000 in revenues through its traffic citations and dispatching services, leaving an annual deficit gap of negative \$2.2 million for safety operations.
- Walton Hills has seen its cash balance reserves decrease \$4.6 million from \$9.6 million to less than \$5 million in a three year span (2008 to 2010).
- Beginning in 2011, the new administration has managed to avoid total depletion of the Village's cash reserves. Last year, the cash reserves ended at approximately \$2 million.
- Unlike many other municipalities, Walton Hills has a significant imbalance of income taxes to property taxes/special
  assessments. The Village has been vulnerable for decades with this imbalance. Property taxes offer a more stable and
  consistent revenue stream while income taxes, specifically payroll taxes of major businesses can fluctuate significantly.
   The 2015 tax year ratio average in Cuyahoga County is approximately 3 to 1 compared to the Village's 114 to 1 (see below).

Municipality	Income Tax Collections	Property Tax Collections	Ratio
Cleveland	\$358,677,459	\$69,958,061	5.13
Parma	39,433,454	11,910,011	3.31
Strongsville	34,171,592	12,178,323	2.81
Beachwood	34,832,861	11,179,382	3.12
Westlake	24,933,118	19,641,630	1.27
Solon	39,532,628	4,737,338	8.34
Shaker Heights	31,193,980	10,015,986	3.11
Lakewood	22,391,110	16,288,880	1.37
Cleveland Heights	23,618,714	13,990,563	1.69
Euclid	24,954,644	7,943,520	3.14
48 Other Communities	391,576,820	168,120,595	2.33
Total	\$1,025,316,380	\$345,964,289	2.96
Walton Hills	\$4,378,236	\$38,137	114.80

# Issue 6: Police Levy - Tuesday, May 2nd

#### **Property Tax Comparisons**

For a home appraised at \$200,000 in Walton Hills, the Village receives \$18.38 and the Bedford City School District (BCSD) receives \$2,811.65 of the total \$4,295 in property taxes paid. Property tax paid by the communities of the BCSD and the average for the 59 municipalities in Cuyahoga County is displayed below.

Municipality	Muni	County	Trl-C	Port	School	Library	Metroparks	Total
Walton Hills	\$18.38	\$883.80	\$249.46	\$6.91	\$2,811.65	\$151.33	\$173.83	\$4,295.35
Oakwood	\$232.75	\$883.80	\$249.46	\$6.91	\$2,811.65	\$151.33	\$173.83	\$4,509.72
Bedford	\$1,329.13	\$883.80	\$249.46	\$6.91	\$2,811.65	\$151.33	\$173.83	\$5,606.10
Bedford Hts.	\$1,341.38	\$883.80	\$249.46	\$6.91	\$2,811.65	\$151.33	\$173.83	\$5,618.35
Cuyahoga County Avg.	\$619.35	\$883.80	\$249.46	\$6.91	\$3,308.67	\$120.55	\$173.83	\$5,362.56

The average property tax millage in Cuyahoga County is 10.15 mills for a municipality. The Village's 0.3 property tax millage is the absolute lowest amongst the 59 communities in Cuyahoga County. It is the only municipality that is below one full mill. On a \$200,000 home, the Village will receive \$18.38 per year compared to the Cuyahoga County average of \$619.35. Furthermore, a home at the same \$200,000 would pay \$1,341.38 to Bedford Heights per year (an astonishing \$1,323 more per year!).

#### How will this affect my property tax bill?

Many residents ask how this will affect their property tax liability if the levy passes. For every \$50,000 of valuation, the increase of 5 additional mills would increase a resident's property tax liability by \$87.50. For a home valued at \$200,000 the resident would pay \$350 per year additional in property taxes.

#### How will this levy impact the Village if it passes?

If the levy passes the Village will receive an additional \$699,247 per year. The important thing to remember is that businesses and public utilities are also affected in the same proportionate matter and will be paying more than half of the additional tax generated by the levy.

The chart below shows the additional revenue that this levy will bring into the Village if it passes:

Funding Source	Current 0.3 Mills	Inside Millage 3.88 Mills	Proposed 5.3 Mills	Additional Revenue
Residential	\$19,314	\$249,800	\$341,222	\$321,908
Commercial	\$10,159	\$131,387	\$179,472	\$169,313
Public Utilities	\$12,482	\$161,429	\$220,508	\$208,027
Total	\$41,955	\$542,616	\$741,202	\$699,247

Reminder: The Village Hall will be closed on Monday, May 29th for Memorial Day, however, we will still have our annual observance that morning at 8:30am on the Village Hall grounds.

# Walton Hills Police Department Information

Kenn Thellmann, Chief of Police Councilman Denny Linville, Safety Committee Chair

#### **Walton Hills Communications Center**

The Walton Hills Communications Center is located in the Village Hall's administrative building. Our communications center handles all police, fire and EMS calls for Walton Hills and Oakwood. We also dispatch fire and EMS for Glenwillow. Our 911 center is equipped with electronic mapping and GPS coordinates locators for cellular callers. Our center is staffed by 12 communications officers (4 full-time and 8 part-time employees). The Walton Hills Communications Center is operational 24/7/365, meaning, we never close or forward calls to other agencies.

When you call the Walton Hills Communications Center you are greeted with a personal touch, not an automated system where you need to push certain numbers to reach a real person or be transferred to a certain department. Our communications officers are very knowledgeable on their surroundings and local venues and are eager to assist the residents and businesses we serve. If you need to call to report something, please be patient, our dispatchers are not just call-takers, they are the call-taker, the radio dispatcher, the information source, the call disseminator, the call logger, and call completer. Each call is handled from start to finish by our dispatchers. During the dayshift and afternoon shifts there are two dispatchers on at all times and one on during the midnight hours until rush hour arrives. At times there may be up to 10 police units on the road (includes both Walton Hills and Oakwood), not to mention numerous fire apparatuses that may be responding to an emergency.



Our communications center is also responsible for activating the tornado sirens for seven communities, and providing Code Red calls regarding the warnings, emergencies or problem. The communication center's main function is the handling of police and fire calls, and dispatching the proper units to the correct addresses. All this is done in addition to filing, entering information in the CAD system (computer aided dispatch), answering nonemergency telephone calls and 911 calls, assisting people at the walk-up window, accepting waiver and bond money, releasing towed vehicles, running plates through the computer, observing prisoners via CCTV, monitoring camera and security systems, broadcasting on radio to police, fire and EMS units, dispatching service departments, confirming warrants, and the list goes on! Our communications officers, are our behind the scenes heroes.

# **Community-Police Relations**

The Walton Hills Police Department has been deemed provisionally compliant with current standards as established by the Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board when it comes to implementing the state's new standards to improve community-police relations. More than 500 agencies- employing about 80% of Ohio's law enforcement officers-are in the process of implementing Ohio's first-ever statewide minimum standards on use of force, including deadly force, and hiring and recruitment. Since 2014, Ohio has been working to create a national model to strengthen the bond between communities and police, including building a database that law enforcement agencies can use to better track the use of force, study common, contributing factors, and formulate ways to prevent them.

Courtesy Reminder: Please be respectful of your neighbors when walking your dog outside of your property, please keep your dog on its leash and make sure you clean up after them.

## **May Recreation News**

Carol Stanoszek, Recreation Director (440) 786-2964 stanoszekc@waltonhillsohio.gov Mary Brenner-Miller, Recreation and Community Life Committee Chairwoman

**Event: PARKER PROGRAM SIGN UP** 

DEADLINE

Date: Monday, May 1st

Cost: \$25/week late fee will be applied

Note: Monday, May 1st is the last day to sign up

for the Parker Program. A \$25 per week late fee will be applied. If you have any questions please call the Recreation Department at

(440) 786-2964.

**Event: NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER** 

Date: Thursday, May 4th

Time: 11am

Site: Walton Hills Church of Christ-7166 Dunham

Road

Note: Join us on this special day when people of

different faiths come together to pray for our

nation.

**Event: DUCK TAPE MANUFACTURING TOUR** 

Date: Tuesday, May 9th

Time: Leaving Village Hall at 9:15am

Site: Avon

Cost: \$6 plus lunch

Note: The tour is 1 ½ hours long. You must wear

closed toe shoes.

**Event: PARASSON'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT** 

Date: Thursday, May 18th

Time: Leaving Village Hall at 11am

Site: Stow

Cost: \$1 plus lunch

Note: Enjoy an Italian meal with friends and

neighbors!



#### **Event: SENIOR LUNCH**

Date: Monday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>

Time: 11:15am

Site: Community Center-14660 Alexander Road

Cost: \$5

Note: Enjoy lunch with neighbors and friends at the

Community Center!

**Event: CAROL'S BOOKWORMS** 

Date: Monday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>

Time: 7pm

Site: Community Center-14660 Alexander Road

Cost: A food item for our pantry.

#### **Event: HARRY LONDON TOUR/ANGRY**

**BARBEQUE** 

Date: Wednesday, May 24th

Time: Leaving Village Hall at 10:15am

Site: North Canton Cost: \$1 plus lunch

Note: Chocolates galore and then lunch at the Angry

Barbeque! It'll be a blast!

#### **Event: MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE**

Date: Monday, May 29th

Time: 8:30am Site: Village Hall

Note: Join us in observing the federal holiday that

remembers the men and women who have died in the armed forces while serving our country.

#### **LOOK AHEAD:**

**Event: VILLAGE GARAGE SALE** 

Date: Thursday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> - Saturday, June 24<sup>th</sup>

Time: 9am-4pm

Note: For more information on the Village Garage

Sale call (440) 786-2964!

#### CAROL'S BOOKWORM REVIEW

Last month we read and discussed the book, "The Girl in Cabin 10," by Ruth Ware. We rated this book:









Out of 5



#### **BOOKWORMS**

#### Councilwoman Gloria Terlosky, Information Committee Chairwoman

Walton Hills has bookworms!
No, we do not have to call
Angelo Petitti to help us out!
"Bookworms" is the name of
the Walton Hills Book Club. Our
numbers are growing. Each
month more and more readers
are showing up! We just finished
reading our 100th book. Like a
beehive has its queen, we also
have a leader, her name is Carol
and she supplies us with books
to read.



On the last Monday of each month, Carol shows up at the Village Hall with her bag of books, some are large print and some are regular print, but all contain words that are guaranteed to take you places you might not otherwise go. It does not matter how fast or slow you read because you have a whole month to finish the book. We even critique them and you can see the results in the Walton Hills Journal, just in case you are interested in what we're reading! We meet for one hour on the last Monday of the month starting at 7pm. The hour is filled with comments, laughter, likes and dislikes, different points of view, it's kind of like being on a jury. You take in a lot of information and then you decide did he or she really mean this or that? Carol's Bookworms is fun and enlightening and never boring!

For Walton Hills residents it is a no muss or fuss time: we meet at the Village Hall, Carol brings us the books from the library, we take them home to read, return in a month to discuss the book, Carol then gathers up the old books, gives us a new book to read and the process repeats itself. And what is the cost? It is free! No membership required, just a willingness to broaden your horizons. There are a lot of things in life that

you can lose: your job, money, your car keys, but one thing that will always stay with you for a lifetime is the knowledge, enjoyment and memories that you receive from reading. So come and spend an hour, meet new people, make new friends, and read something that you would not necessarily have chosen at your favorite book store. My thanks to Carol, for sharing her love of books and her infectious laughter with the bookworms every month. And to the wonderful volunteers, who give of their time to teach children and adults to read, it is a special gift that you give to these individuals and it will keep on giving for a lifetime.



### Here are some environmental tips for the month of May:

- Mow high at 3 or 4 inches and let clippings lie on the lawn. Save money, time, and prevent over application of nutrients by letting the grass clippings add nitrogen to the soil as nature's fertilizer.
- Don't mulch or compost clippings with annual weed seed heads. Instead, bag it up and dispose of in the trash to prevent more weeds being introduced to your lawn.
- Continue to hand pull or spot treat weeds with an organic weed control spray.
- If Japanese beetle grubs are an issue and soil conditions are right, apply Milky Spore to control the population. One application lasts for ten years.
- Reduce or eliminate pesticides to protect children and animals.

**Did You Know?** Beneficial nematodes do more than control grubs. They are also effective on flea and tick larvae, helping keep your pets free of these pests.

# You, the Caregiver, but So Much More

#### Kathleen Kapusta, LISW-S Social Worker / Office Phone 216.524.5570

In the past, those who assumed the role of caring for others were referred to as "caretakers." Now, this same group of individuals, is referred to as "caregivers." "Caregiver" is synonymous with one who extends themselves to others. As a caregiver, you may be accustomed to hearing people describe you with words such as selfless, loving and devoted. Yet, how often do you look at yourself in the role of caregiver and decide these qualities could not be further from the truth? Certainly it is true that caregivers often possess many admirable qualities. However, the reality of the day to day role of caring for another person, may find you describing yourself with terms such as guilt and anger.

Why would a caregiver see themselves as guilty? Simply because you are unable to perform all the "would haves, could haves and should haves" that your role demands? You must learn to accept the gap between perfection and reality, what you think you should do and what you realistically could do. Do you ever feel resentful? If you see yourself as abandoned, having the full responsibility fall upon you, or not appreciated for the work you

do, resentment is likely to follow. It's important to find somewhere to go or someone to talk to so you can release the feelings before you "explode."

It is difficult to find a caregiver who has never experienced the emotion of anger. So often the role of caregiver requires you to give up yourself for another. When personal needs are consistently placed second, anger is a common response. The best way to deal with it is to acknowledge the anger and focus your efforts on trying to minimize the situation. For instance, is there a compromise where someone else may periodically assume some of the responsibility, freeing you up for yourself? Lastly, loneliness is frequently associated with being a caregiver. As demands on your time grow, social interaction tends to diminish, resulting in a loss of social support. To survive, you must make a conscious effort to reach out to others either in person, on the phone, or online. Do whatever works best, just make sure that you do something. The overall message is that to be the very best caregiver possible, you must also care for yourself.

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# **Street Commissioner's Report**

#### Dan Stucky, Street Commissioner Councilman Brian Spitznagel, Infrastructure Committee Chairman

Spring is always a very busy time of year for the Service Department. As most homeowners will agree, the grass seems to grow faster than we can keep up with! Rain or shine, we try our best to keep the baseball fields cut at least twice a week and road row areas and all Village owned properties cut at least once a week. Our brush chipping crew will also stay busy on a weekly basis, chipping from one end of town to the other. Landscaping duties, road repairs, catch basin repairs, building maintenance, litter pick-up and of course any emergency calls will be mixed in with our routine springtime work.



The next Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District roundup will be the old computers and associated equipment on Monday, May 15th through Friday, May 19th at the Service Garage on Dunham Road from 8am-3:30pm.

Only residential computers, monitors, printers, keyboards and associated equipment will be collected. No televisions, radios, batteries, speakers and other types of electronics will be accepted in this drop off as these items are not recycled by the vendor. Call the Service Department at (216) 581-0434 if you have any questions.

#### Reminder:

Due to Memorial Day, trash will be collected one day late on Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## **Tinkers Creek Stream Cleanup**

The Village of Walton Hills, the Walton Hills Lake Club and the Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District are teaming up for a Tinkers Creek Stream Cleanup event on Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> from 9am-Noon. Volunteers will help clean up trash from Tinkers Creek and the streamside land in Walton Hills. On the day of the cleanup, meet at the Lake Club on Rotary Drive.

You'll want to dress for the weather, bring water, wear long sleeves

and pants, boots or work shoes, and work gloves are recommended. Trash bags will be provided. Groups are welcome to volunteer, but parents must complete waivers for those volunteering under the age of 18, and provide adult supervision. To register or for questions contact Jacki Zevenbergen at (216) 524-6580 x 1006 or <a href="mailto:jzevenbergen@cuyahogaswcd.org">jzevenbergen@cuyahogaswcd.org</a>.



After the cleanup, lunch will be provided to the volunteers!

#### **Healthy Soils are Full of Life!**

It's time for the Cuyahoga County Soil and Water Conservation District's 2017 poster contest!

This year's theme is "Healthy Soils are Full of Life!" Students in grades K-12 can participate, it doesn't matter if you attend a public or private school or if you're home schooled! You're eligible!

For contest rules and prizes, log onto <a href="https://www.cuyahogaswcd.org">www.cuyahogaswcd.org</a>.

Posters are due by Friday, May 26th!

# Calendar of Events

# May 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Parker Program Sign Up Deadline Women's Club Board Mtg. 7pm	Issue 6 Election 6:30am-7pm	Historical Resource Center Open 1-3pm and 7-8:30pm	National Day of Prayer 11am Mayor's Court 4pm	5	6
7	50-Plus Club Board Mtg. 1pm Blood Drive 2-6pm	Duck Tape Manufacturing Tour Leaving at 9:15am C.O.W. Mtg. 6pm	10	Mayor's Court 4pm	12	13
ILove You	Computer Recycling 8am-3:30pm 50 Plus Club Mtg. 12pm Antique Car Club 7pm	Computer Recycling 8am-3:30pm Council Mtg. 6pm	Computer Recycling 8am-3:30pm	Computer Recycling 8am-3:30pm Parasson's Restaurant Leaving at 11am Mayor's Court 4pm	Computer Recycling 8am-3:30pm	Tinkers Creek Clean Up at the Walton Hills Lake Club 9am
21	Senior Lunch 11:15am Carol's Bookworms 7pm	23	Harry London & Angry Barbeque Leaving at 10:15am  Women's Club Installation Dinner 6pm	Mayor's Court 4pm	26	27
28	Memorial Day Program 8:30am Village Hall Closed	30	31			

Women's Exercise Class - Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30 to 7:30pm in the Community Room

Mahjongg - Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1 to 4pm at the Walton Hills Church of Christ

Knit-Wits 2 Needles - Tuesdays from 1 to 3pm at the Walton Hills Church of Christ

For the most up-to-date info, call the Village Voice Info Line 440.735.5001 Option 5 Extra copies of the Walton Hills Journal are available at the Village Hall

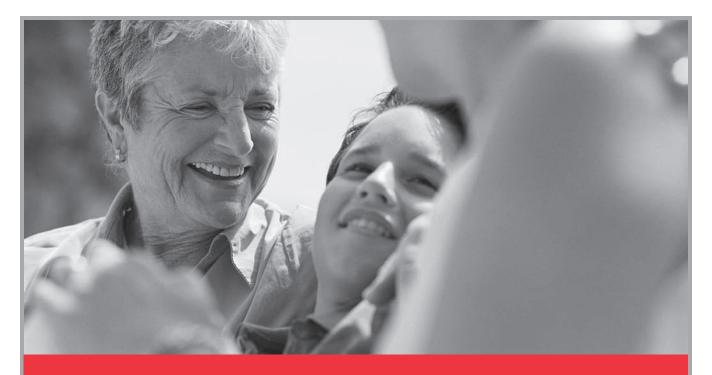




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This X-ray test only takes 5 to 10 minutes to complete, and measures the amount of calcium that has accumulated in the walls of the coronary arteries. The resulting score can help inform your prevention or treatment plan.

Schedule Your No-Cost Calcium Score Test Today

Call **1-866-579-6825** to schedule your screening. A doctor's order is required prior to the test.

